3. The proceedings of the Assembly commenced at 12 noon on the 19th February 1914. Dewan Bahadur P. Rajagopala Chari, Esquire, M. A., B. L., C. I. E., the Dewan, presided. There were present A. T. Forbes, Esquire, I. C. S., the Resident in Travancore and Cochin; Captain E. F. Ross, I. A., the Assistant Resident; M. R. Ry. Kerala Varma Avergal, C. S. I., Valia Koil Tampuran ; M. R. Ry. M. Krishnan Nair Avergal, B. A., B. L., the Chief Justice, and other heads of departments and offices and several non-official gentlemen.

4. The Dewan opened the Assembly with the following—

ADDRESS.

" *Gentlemen,*

By command of His Highness the Maha Raja, I gladly welcome you to the Tenth Session of the Assembly. Copies of the Administration Report for 1088—in English and in Malayalam—will, as usual, be placed in your hands, and I would invite a perusal of the report.

CASUALTIES.

2. Since I last addressed you, the Public Service has lost several high officers, the Senior Dewan Peishkar, Mr. S. Padmanabha Aiyar, the Superintendent of the Devicolam Division, Mr. A. W. L. Vernede, the Commandant of the Nayar Brigade, Col. R. D. Faunce, the Second Professor of English in His Highness the Maha Raja's College, Mr. M. LaBouchardiere, and the Senior Executive Engineer, Mr. H. A. Minchin. Mr. Padmanabha Aiyar was a capable and sound officer, whose good work in completing the Revenue Settlement of the State has already received the warm appreciation of His Highness' Government. The position of the Superintendent of the Devicolam Division is one of some difficulty, and Mr. Vernede discharged the duties of that office with ability and tact. Col. Faunce was an officer of marked efficiency ; he left the Nair Brigade in a much better condition than he found it. Mr. LaBouchardiere had been connected with His Highness the Maha Raja's College for nearly four decades, and the Education Department is all the poorer for his retirement. By Mr. Minchin's unfortunate death, we have lost a very good Engineer, who had been employed almost continuously on the Kodayar Irrigation Works, and whose memory will, I have no doubt, live long in the minds of the ryots in the Southern Division, for whom he had always such warm sympathy and with whom he succeeded in maintaining such amicable relations.

FINANCIAL.

3. The Revenue of the Government rose from Rs. 1,37,68,000 in 1087 to Rs. 1,48,12,000 in 1088, and the Expenditure from Rs. 1,34,55,000 to Rs. 1,45,98,000. In the result, the transactions of 1088 showed a Surplus of Rs. 2,14,000, raising the Government Balance from Rs. 75,78,000 at the beginning of the year to Rs. 77,92,000 at its close. In 1082 the Revenue of the State was Rs. 1,01,73,000 and the Expenditure Rs. 1,03,76,000. The revenue has thus gone up during the last six years by 46% and the expenditure by 41%. From 1083 onwards, the State has had a surplus every year, the average surplus for the period working out at Rs. 3,70,000.

MAIN HEADS OF REVENUE.

4. **Land.**—Under Land Revenue I would note the complete closure of Settlement work and the submission of the final report on the same. His Highness' Government reviewed this report at some length recently. The revenue derived from the lands belonging to the Devaswoms, or Hindu temples, has been separated, with effect from 1088, from Land Revenue proper, and taken to the credit of the Devaswoms; so also, the receipts from the irrigation cess levied in the area commanded by the Kodayar, have been taken to the head of Irrigation and other Reproductive Works. In the result, the demand and collection of Land Revenue exhibit a *nominal* falling off.

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